

**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT**

**RESOLUTION #2020-135**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF LONGPORT, COUNTY OF ATLANTIC,  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY, SUPPORTING HIGH SPEED INTERNET ACCESSIBILITY**

**WHEREAS**, rural areas of the State of New Jersey are serviced by service providers with respect to aerial line high-speed internet service; and

**WHEREAS**, having access to aerial line high-speed internet service is a necessary and vital part of living in today's society; and

**WHEREAS**, the recent pandemic of COVID-19 further illustrates just how vital access to aerial line high-speed internet has become to society, especially during times of crisis or emergencies and how not having access to aerial line high-speed internet has the potential to cripple a community, particularly a rural one, denying the community the capacity for remote student learning and remote working arrangements with a resident's employer; and

**FURTHERMORE**, during a time of crisis not having access to aerial line high-speed internet has the potential to shut down all functions of government by denying essential employees and elected officials the ability to work, communicate, distribute information, conduct meetings, and perform the other requirements of a functioning government through remote capabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Longport believes that the service providers of aerial line high-speed internet in the State of New Jersey are more than capable of and financially sound enough to achieve a 100% rate of aerial line high-speed internet accessibility but choose not to pursue that goal unless forced to through regulation because the providers feel it is not profitable; and

**WHEREAS**, not having access to aerial line high-speed internet service is a plight on students, reducing their educational opportunities and ability to learn in a modern world; and

**WHEREAS**, not having access to aerial line high-speed internet service could potentially have life and death consequences for the elderly or those with various health complications; and

**WHEREAS**, not having access to aerial line high-speed internet service causes a great burden to businesses, places them at a disadvantage, and reduces chances for economic development in rural area; and

**WHEREAS**, not having access to aerial line high-speed internet service can cause rural healthcare facilities to shut down because they cannot access required networks to function, thereby further creating negative impacts on New Jersey residents' health; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Longport is desirous of assisting and cooperating with other public entities and State officials to pursue a petition before the Board of Public Utilities

to enact regulations requiring a 100% rate of aerial high-speed internet accessibility in each individual municipality throughout the State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, unless the Board of Public Utilities requires service providers of aerial line high-speed internet to provide 100% aerial line high-speed internet access in all municipalities throughout New Jersey, the State will have unintentionally subverted the public’s significant investment in the Highland’s Preservation Zones, farmland, and open space preservation by not allowing those areas’ businesses to be economically competitive and viable over the long term.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Municipal Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey that the Board of Public Utilities is requested to order all service providers of aerial line high-speed internet to provide aerial line high-speed internet service to all municipalities throughout the State with each municipality being afforded a 100% rate of high-speed internet accessibility; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that our State representatives use their authority to require service providers of aerial high line high-speed internet to achieve a 100% rate of high speed internet access for each individual municipality throughout the State of New Jersey; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Municipal Clerk for the Borough of Longport be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the Senate President of the New Jersey State Senate, the Speaker of the Assembly of the State of New Jersey, the Atlantic County Board of Chosen Freeholders, and the Board of Public Utilities.

RECORD OF GOVERNING BODY VOTE ON FINAL PASSAGE: 11/20/2020						
COMMISSION	AYE	NAY	N.V	A.B.	MOT.	SEC.
RUSSO	X				X	
LEEDS	X					
LAWLER	X					X
X-Indicates Vote    NV-Not Voting    AB-Absent    MOT-Motion    SEC-Second						

This is a Certified True copy of the Original Resolution on file in the Municipal Clerk’s Office.

DATE OF ADOPTION: 11-20-2020

/s/ MONICA KYLE, MUNICIPAL CLERK